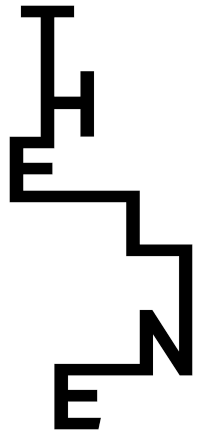


In Between (2025) is a series of black and white photographic portraits by the Togo-born, Brussels-based photographer [Hélène Amouzou](#). In addition to the six portraits installed in the Royal Docks, [the online exhibition](#) showcases an extended series of portraits and audio stories produced through the artist-led workshops.

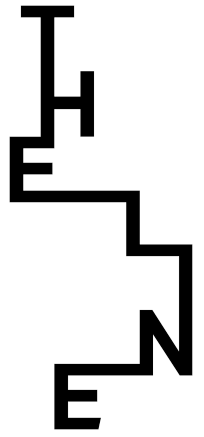


Glory:

My main object is my hair band, my diary, and my trolley, and my garment. Like I said, the hair band, I have this like African attire. I used to make it, so during the time of my journey without status, I'm always afraid to use it, because I used to feel scared and afraid that if I use it, it might tell my identity to people that 'this is who she is', and because I'm scared of what might happen after that. To be in a safe place and to make sure that I don't bring out myself out yet. That's why I didn't use it then, and I was hoping for a day that will come, that I'll be bold enough to tell my identity and to let people know I'm an African girl, yeah.

I feel safe because I have my child here. If I don't feel safe, then how do I protect her? I'm safe, but when we are the older, maybe because I do not have... How do I put it? I wish my mother was alive. You know, sometimes you need somebody to encourage you, to boost that positive vibe in you. I can do it to my daughter. I need someone to do it to me. I have my church, I have praises, thank God for them. Imagine I don't have the church and I don't have praises? That's a safe place for me – a safe place for me, to be honest. I always look forward to going there every Tuesday. After leaving there, it gives me that energy for the week, so I always look forward for it. It's just like my medication, every week to go there and get the energy. Say wherever you want to say, pour it out. Sometimes when we're doing the checking out, almost all of us start crying at the same time, which we do need.

I like to write. I'm a singer, so I like to compose songs. Most time I like to put all my emotions together in singing, writing down songs, and writing down some lyrics, how I feel at the moment. So, my diary is where I put all my emotions.



The trolley, when the time I was pregnant and had nowhere to stay, when I had to move from one friend's place to another, and... The trolley is the bag that I have to pull my things because I couldn't... Lifting would be too much for me, so I find solace in the trolley. It's just easy for me to pull wherever I go. Someone else said, "You go to church?" I said, "Yes." "Why not talk to them in your church that you need help?" I said, "Oh, really?" Because I never knew. So, I went to my shepherd in the church. I explained the situation. They said, "Oh, and why didn't you just..." "Because I never knew." That's why if you don't tell people what you're going through, they will not know, and that is the aspect of me hiding, running away. I never knew it was a safe place for me. So, he said it's a safe place for me. If I need help, I should let him know. So, eventually I started living in the church.

So, the trolley is still the thing I took to the church. Even when I gave birth to my child from the hospital, if I was assisted with my church member again, it was still the trolley. So, until I had my accommodation, it was still the trolley. Of course, I have a few things that... I lost a lot of things, but here I am today. Yeah, so still the trolley.

Treglodyte:

My choice of object, actually it's two objects, was motivated by my obsession to find out the origins of humankind. So, my choice is a mug with our closest cousin, a chimpanzee, or maybe he or she is a bonobo. And, second is a gorilla mother with her baby. So, the chimp's name is Nigel, gorilla is Gabriella, and her son is Toby.

Why have I chosen this? This is very, very close to my background. I have degree in forestry and PhD in biology, and I used to work, for a quarter-century, in forestry, and biosphere nature reserves. And plus, it just happened that never in my life, I have eaten the flesh of our fellow mammals, not to mention, of course, our cousins, bonobo, chimpanzees and gorillas.

Chimpanzee shares 99.4% of their DNA with humans. Gorillas share 98.3% with humans. So they're closest relatives. And another mammals, by the

way, the most popular animal that humankind eat is pig. Well, they, I think are third after gorilla's DNA.

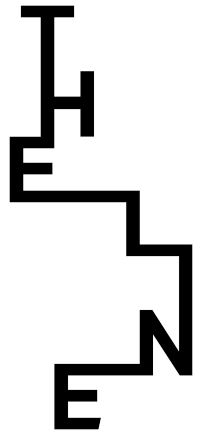
And I'm very strict about that. I never ate this, especially now, my life, because it happened, in orphanage it was not available. And then in uni, I started to practice vegetarianism. If not vegetarian, so pollotarian or pescatarian, but no red meat.

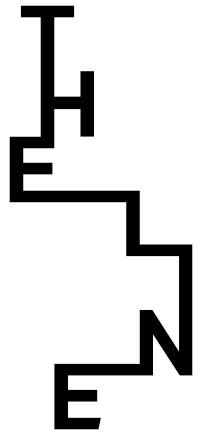
Mercy:

I have a wristwatch that I bring. I have a precious stone. I have the key. This is the key I brought from home. I keep my things tight. It's a security to my luggage. I only had two bags when I was coming and I lock my bag because I keep my precious things inside. I don't want to cry over anything that is inside, especially I bought some things for my little baby. I was on the streets with my two bags. I don't know where I'm going. I don't know. And home is so far, and, you know, being in a country that you don't have family, no one, is like your life is gone. It's like you don't have any tree to lean on. I have a cross here, which indicates Christ, the comforter of my spirit. Whenever I'm down, I hold it. I pick my Bible. I keep on moving and console myself. I go through some verses in the Bible. I meditate. I so much like the book because I believe in prayer. There's no power outside prayer.

I brought a mirror. I use this mirror to connect myself, to look into it and see how the life has been treating me. So though the eyes look tired, stressed, but when I get into the mirror, it speaks a lot of languages to me and I keep moving, and I believe the face that is rough today is going to be more clearer, glittering in the future. And I want to talk about this powder. I so much like foundation powder, but unfortunately for me, I've not been able to be using it because my mind is not yet settled. So I keep it. I know one day I'll apply it to my face and I will tell myself I made it.

I have a lot of things. I even brought wigs I bought back. I thought I will be, it was another entire impression when I was coming, but I'm getting here, it's a different case, but I know one day I'll be able to use this object. I keep them safe. I don't want to lose them because when the joy comes, I'll be able to





say "Yes, these are the objects I bring safely and they're still with me." I can even tell my daughter about them, and about the story of life, to help and guide her. I so much love her. She eventually changed my situation. Though I lose my spouse, but because I'm with her, I'm blessed. I see her as a blessing to me. So just one of my – she's the most of my objects and precious to me. I hold onto her, when I'm lonely in the home I talk to her. I see her as my friend and after God, that's my beautiful daughter. So important to me. I don't want anything to happen to her because she's part of my great objects.

Leo:

I was homeless on and off for many years. My backpack not only held stuff I needed, but also kept me warm while I was living on street to survive.

I used to got my old... my own backpack. It was broken and lost. I got a brand new one from charity. I really want to thank Praxis. Without the help and supporting from Praxis, I wouldn't get back on my feet. I really want to keep the memory – whatever, easy or tough.

About The Line

The Line is East London's public art trail that connects Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park and The O2, following the waterways and the line of the Greenwich Meridian. Its outdoor exhibition programme offers a journey through a dynamic urban landscape where everyone can explore art, nature and heritage for free.

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